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EDMONTON • WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2008

metronews.ca

**Celebrity Buzz**

**Friends rely  
on Will  
being  
with Jada**  
pg 18



## Cops make arrest after standoff

**CRIME** A 19-year-old man connected to a convenience store robbery was arrested yesterday morning after a long standoff with police in the city's west end.

Police say a man robbed the store on Stony Plain Road and 154 Street around 2 a.m. and investigators were able to track him down to his home near 158 Street and 98 Avenue. Police were unsuccessful in getting the armed man out of the home, but the tactical unit was called in to arrest the man shortly after 9 a.m.

Police spent most of the morning searching for a weapon inside the home.

No word has been made by police on official charges, as well as the identification of the suspect.

METRO EDMONTON

**Canada** pg 6

## Iggy to lead Liberal party

**Automotive** pg 13



**Zoom Zoom**

**ShareYourViews**

edmontonletters@metronews.ca



Craig Mansfield, vice-president for the Edmonton chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving, stands next to one of the new advertisements now in men's and women's restrooms in bars around the city.

# Gifts, not body bags

MADD unveils new campaign to deter impaired driving

**JEFF CUMMINGS**  
jeff.cummings@metronews.ca



**Revellers will be given a stern reminder by Mothers Against Drunk Driving about the dangers of drunk driving at a number of city pubs this holiday season — something that will be wrapped up in a body bag.**

Craig Mansfield, vice-president for the Edmonton chapter of MADD Canada, says bar patrons will now notice large, interactive posters inside bar and

restaurant washrooms that resemble zippered body bags.

Once the bag is unzipped, a facemask is unveiled with a message that reads, "The last thing your loved one should unwrap during the holiday season. Designate a driver."

"We want people to think," said Mansfield. "When you are out drinking, how are you getting home?"

Mansfield says the \$20,000 body bags campaign is a first for the local chapter

as it tries to target 20-somethings who are more prone to getting behind the wheel drunk than any other age group.

"I think this is a fantastic idea," said Fern Jordan, whose 11-year-old daughter was killed by a drunk driver in 1988.

"Something like this has never been seen before and I think it would have a huge impact."

Jordan says the body bag posters may also remind others to stop someone from getting behind the

wheel of a vehicle while intoxicated.

"It's very powerful," she said.

The campaign, ending in the first week of January, will also include radio ads that will remind listeners to not allow letting their loved ones open a "body bag" this holiday season, said Mansfield.

City cops made 1,955 charges for impaired driving in 2007, up from 1,546 in 2006, according to figures from the Edmonton Police Service.

Tailings ponds leaking, says new report

**JEFF CUMMINGS**  
jeff.cummings@metronews.ca

Four billion litres of toxic water from oilsands tailings ponds — enough to fill Toronto's Rogers Centre two-and-a-half times — has been mixed with groundwater every year, says a new report released yesterday by an environmental group.

And new projects in Alberta's oilsands could boost that amount to more than 25 billion litres within a decade, said the Environmental Defence report.

"This stuff just doesn't disappear," said report author Matt Price with Environmental Defence.

Price says the data collected was from the oilsands industry, but a spokeswoman with the Alberta government's environment office says it's already aware tailings ponds leak, but there's existing industry-controlled systems in place that prevent environmental damage.

Kim Capstick says systems already in place catch the water and put it back into the tailings ponds before it reaches groundwater.

"In some cases, it is reaching very deep groundwater structures that are naturally contaminated because they flow right below the oilsands," said Capstick.

The report comes on the same day another report was released that says acid rain in Alberta's oilsands region could be forcing forest soils past their tolerance levels.

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BEAUTY  
*at the Bay*

## City budget will get go-ahead soon

City hall is ready to put a rubber stamp on the 2009 Edmonton city budget — likely resulting in a tax hike of around 8.5 per cent — down from an initial estimate of close to 14.5 per cent. **METRO EDMONTON**

# Local



## Don't forget your food donation

People attending the Candy Cane Lane this year will once again be asked to make a donation to Edmonton's Food Bank. In 20 years, more than 300,000 kilograms of food along the lane have been donated to the bank. Candy Cane Lane, which runs along 148 Street between 100 Avenue and 92 Avenue, will officially open Friday at 6 p.m. **METRO EDMONTON**



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A makeshift memorial has been set up for murder victim Mitch Chambers

## Clues evasive in city's latest murder

Police are coming up short in the murder investigation of a young man, who was gunned down in his running truck Sunday night.

Friends have set up a makeshift memorial for 23-year-old Mitch Chambers on the corner of 188 Street and 47 Avenue where he was fatally shot.

An outpouring of support for his family has been posted to an memorial page on Facebook, where dozens of friends have posted their condolences.

Police spokeswoman Karen Carlson confirmed yesterday that Chambers is known to police. **METRO EDMONTON**

## Cops warn of mall gift thefts

**VICTORIA HANDYSIDES**  
victoria.handysides@metronews.ca

### There are thieves that walk among us in plainclothes disguises.

Thankfully, there are watchful eyes that lurk even deeper in the shadows that will keep our belongings safe this holiday season.

Police and a volunteer lookout organization are reminding holiday shoppers that thieves are lurking in shopping centre parking lots, just waiting for a prime opportunity to swipe packages from cars.

"It's really easy to drop packages off where they're in plain view and keep shopping," said EPS Supt. Joe Marshall.

"If you do that, you're going to become a statistic."

The number of legitimate-looking crooks creeping around parking lots is astounding, Supt. Marshall said.

Often times, they'll wait



Edmonton police are warning mall shoppers to be wary of people lurking in parking lots waiting for those with holiday gifts to lighten their load by putting gifts in unattended cars.

around until people drop gifts off in their cars to lighten the load while shopping.

When nobody is watching, it takes mere seconds for just-bought gifts to disappear.

Matching crooks in

shady patrols around parking lots are a group of volunteers bent on stopping thieves in their tracks.

"We look just like everyday people and blend in the crowd," said Community Police Radio Network

volunteer Craig Gaunt.

"We're looking for anyone out of place, and if we see a break-in, we call police."

Supt. Marshall suggests leaving packages in mall lockers, or getting them gift wrapped and stored.

## Cops on hunt for senior's attacker

**SEARCH** Police are still searching for the car of a senior citizen who was brutally attacked and robbed last week.

The blue 2003 Ford Taurus was taken when the 83-year-old woman returned from shopping at a north-end shopping complex.

Police have confirmed the vehicle filled up with stolen gas from a station near 50 Street and 101 Avenue Dec. 2.

**METRO EDMONTON**

**metronews.ca**

What's online today.

**Video** What effect will low

interest rates have on the sluggish Alta economy at [metronews.ca/local](http://metronews.ca/local).

**Video** Jon Stewart

tackles Ottawa's political showdown at [metronews.ca/canada](http://metronews.ca/canada)



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When it comes to science, Alberta's Grade 4 students are among the best in the world, according to an international study. Alberta tied for fourth with several countries and achieved first out of the four participating Canadian provinces, in the 2007 Trends in International Mathematics and Science. **METRO EDMONTON**

## Hardware store employee charged in bomb scare at workplace

**VICTORIA HANDYSIDES**  
victoria.handysides@metronews.ca

A hardware store employee was charged with attempting to blow his workplace to bits, after a co-worker discovered a homemade bomb in the store Monday afternoon.

Staff and customers at a north-end Rona store (9603 – 165 Avenue) were forced out into the cold just after noon after an explosive de-

vice was found inside the store.

The bomb squad quickly arrived on scene and dismantled the device. Another device was found inside the store.

"It was confirmed to be an explosive device," said police spokeswoman Patricia Thenu.

It is not known exactly where in the store the explosives were found.

Police aren't releasing details about what kind of

bombs were set down in the store, or what kind of damage they could have caused if detonated.

The person charged with placing the bomb in the store, 18-year-old James Glenn Gauchier, has been charged with possession of an explosive substance for an unlawful purpose.

Management at the store were tight-lipped about the incident yesterday, but did say that Gauchier was fired after the arrest.



BEN LEMLYERS/FOR METRO EDMONTON

Edna Jacobs labours to clear away snow from the sidewalks and bus stop in front of the apartment building she manages near 99th Street and 87 Avenue, yesterday morning. The city of Edmonton is encouraging citizens to lend a helping hand with sidewalk clearing after recent snowfall.

## Be an angel: Grab a shovel

**JEFF CUMMINGS**  
jeff.cummings@metronews.ca

**Even 82-year-old Edna Jones, caretaker for a 99 Street and 88 Ave apartment complex, has to shovel the sidewalks — and she's also responsible for the bus stops surrounding the building, too.**

"I don't think it's fair since I am on a bus stop, and I think the city should take care of the bus stops," said Jones.

The city is hoping Edmontonians lend a helping

hand to seniors and the physically disabled by shovelling their sidewalks as those in need could face a \$100 fine if it's not done.

Brenda Wong, a senior coordinator for the city, says she has been getting calls daily from dozens of seniors who need their pathways cleared since the winter dump of snow and rain over the weekend.

"We are encouraging people to look out for someone in their neighbourhood that might need a bit of extra help," said Wong, organizer of the city's Snow An-

gels program.

All property owners, including the physically disabled, are responsible for removing snow off their sidewalk, said David Aitkin, manager of the community standards branch for the city.

If a complaint is made to the city over a large buildup of snow on a sidewalk, bylaw officials will issue a warning to the property owner on the first offence, said Aitkin.

**VIDEO: How Edmontonians cope with the treacherous conditions at metronews.ca/local**

## America's Most Wanted fugitive captured in Calgary

**ARREST** A convicted child molester of America's Most Wanted television notoriety has been arrested in Calgary.

The Fugitive Apprehension Detail (FAD) received a tip from U.S. Marshalls and yesterday arrested 49-year-old Steven Andrew Hayes on his downtown construction site in the 400 block of 11 Ave. SE.

He was convicted of sexually assaulting another young girl in 1997.

**METRO CANADA**

an offender of this nature off of the streets," FAD Sgt. Tony Manning said.

Hayes appeared on the show America's Most Wanted after he fled Lewisville, Texas in 2005 where he was wanted for aggravated sexual assault of a child.

"It's always good to get

## Silent auction aids Food Bank's goal

**DONATIONS** The Edmonton Food Bank is a few dollars closer to reaching its goal this year, thanks to a few silent bidders that offered up cash for donated prizes in Monday's silent auction.

Over 40 prize packages, including a trip for two to Mexico were donated by generous local businesses, raking in almost \$8,000. Their Christmas goals are for \$650,000 and 225,000 kgs of food. **METRO EDMONTON**

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On average, 390 children under the age of 14 die every year from preventable injuries and 25,500 are hospitalized, according to Safe Kids Canada, a national child-injury prevention organization linked with the Hospital for Sick Children. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

# Canada



## Mounties to test Tasers

The RCMP said they would test 24 Tasers bought before 2006 after a media investigation suggested older models of the stun gun could fire excessively large electrical charges. Last week, CBC aired an investigation into 44 X-26 units, left, used by U.S. agencies and said independent tests showed four of them fired charges up to 60 per cent greater than the supposed maximum. All four were made before 2005.

REUTERS

### News in brief

**ONTARIO** In the supermarket and even out for a stroll, Premier Dalton McGuinty was pestered over the furor his government created with a plan to limit teen drivers to having no more than one teen

passenger. That's why he gave in earlier this week and scrapped the move that was part of changes aimed at making Ontario roads safer for teens, who have higher accident rates.

**SURPLUS** Despite a slump in world oil prices, the Newfoundland and Labrador government said yesterday it expects to finish the fiscal year with more than \$1 billion in its pocket, CBC News Online reports. Finance

Minister Jerome Kennedy, however, laid out a set of dire warnings to accompany a fiscal update that projects a \$1.27-billion surplus for the current operating year.

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## Path cleared for Ignatieff to lead Grits

**Michael Ignatieff is about to seize his long-sought prize — the Liberal leadership, raising fresh questions about the future of the opposition coalition that has vowed to defeat the minority Conservatives next month.**

Yesterday, Prime Minister Stephen Harper tried to fracture the coalition by extending an olive branch to the Liberals, saying he's hoping the new leader will "be willing to sit down with me" and talk about the economy.

The fate of the coalition will be among a wealth of pressing issues facing Ignatieff as he prepares to take over the leadership of a party battered by cash woes, two lost elections

and dismal poll numbers.

Ignatieff was assured of the leadership yesterday after rival Bob Rae — the last candidate in the race — dropped out, conceding he didn't have enough support to win. Rae dismissed suggestions that a fast-track contest undercut Ignatieff's claim on the leadership.

"As far as I'm concerned, his leadership is entirely constitutional." Bob Rae on Ignatieff

Rae said.

Ignatieff wasn't speaking publicly yesterday but is expected to hold a news conference today after the Liberal caucus meeting.

**TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

### Mourning Ted Rogers funeral



Loretta Rogers, centre, and family members watch as the casket of her late husband Ted Rogers, president and CEO of Rogers Communications, leaves the church following funeral services in Toronto, yesterday. Rogers was 75 when he died Dec. 2.

Bestiality, suicide questions OK to ask potential cops, Halifax officials decide

**POLYGRAPH** Allowing off-duty police to run polygraph tests for the force may be a conflict of interest, city officials say, but the controversial tests themselves will not change.

Applicants to police and fire departments must un-

dergo polygraph screenings that include embarrassing questions about having sex with animals.

The tests were contracted out to Integrity Personnel Screening, a company owned by two Halifax cops.

**METRO CANADA**

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**USA: ONE-WAY Tango Plus fares from Edmonton. Travel must be completed by November 30, 2009.**

NEW YORK	ATLANTA	LOS ANGELES	BOSTON	SAN DIEGO	LAS VEGAS	HOUSTON	MAUI
<b>\$147</b>	<b>\$153</b>	<b>\$154</b>	<b>\$163</b>	<b>\$165</b>	<b>\$168</b>	<b>\$192</b>	<b>\$286</b>

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**Sun: ONE-WAY fares from Edmonton, for travel as indicated below.**

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<b>\$239</b>	<b>\$299</b>	<b>\$315</b>	<b>\$339</b>	<b>\$390</b>	<b>\$400</b>	<b>\$424</b>	<b>\$539</b>

**International: Fares are EACH WAY from Edmonton and require ROUND-TRIP purchase. Departure dates as indicated below.**

LONDON HEATHROW JAN. 1, 2009–APRIL 30, 2009	MUNICH <sup>1</sup> FRANKFURT <sup>1</sup> JAN. 1, 2009–MAY 14, 2009	PARIS JAN. 1, 2009–MAY 14, 2009	SEOUL JAN. 1, 2009–APRIL 30, 2009	ZURICH JAN. 1, 2009–APRIL 30, 2009	BEIJING JAN. 1, 2009–APRIL 30, 2009	HONG KONG JAN. 1, 2009–MAY 24, 2009	SYDNEY, AU FEB. 16, 2009–MARCH 31, 2009
<b>\$303</b>	<b>\$365</b>	<b>\$372</b>	<b>\$409</b>	<b>\$455</b>	<b>\$505</b>	<b>\$544</b>	<b>\$754</b>

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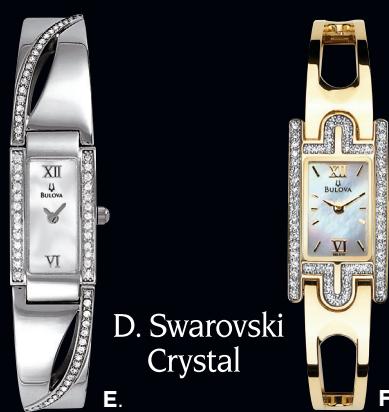
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8

**Bush wants Mugabe to step down**  
The African Union rejected tougher action against Zimbabwe yesterday, while U.S. President George W. Bush joined calls for President Robert Mugabe to step down. **REUTERS**

# World

## Greek rioters target parliament

Opposition calls for government to quit

**Riot police battled protesters outside Greece's parliament and in Athens suburbs yesterday, while opposition socialists called for the conservative government to quit in order to end the worst civil unrest in decades.**

Rows of riot police squared off with demonstrators for more than an hour outside the parliament building before firing tear gas to disperse the crowd in fresh violence triggered by the shooting of a 15-year-old boy by police.

Bands of young protesters regrouped and threw stones at police, chanting:

### Emergency talks

Prime Minister Costas Karamanlis, whose New Democracy party has a one-seat majority, held emergency talks with the president and opposition leaders to urge them to close ranks against the rioters.

"Let parliament burn!"

On the fourth day of violence, protests spread to the Athens suburbs after the funeral of the boy, Alexandros Grigoropoulos, whose killing on Saturday triggered Greece's worst riots in decades, fanned by

discontent over government and a slowing economy.

More than 5,000 people clad in black gathered at the cemetery, many chanting: "Cops, Pigs, Murderers!" As the boy's flower-covered white coffin was being buried, protesters clashed with police outside and one officer fired shots in the air to disperse an angry crowd.

The teen's killing touched a raw nerve among young Greeks, outraged at years of political scandals and rising levels of poverty and unemployment, worsened by the global economic downturn. **REUTERS**

### India Muslims celebrate Eid al-Adha



Indian Muslims pray together to mark Eid al-Adha on a busy road in Mumbai yesterday. Muslims around the world celebrate Eid al-Adha to mark the end of the hajj.

### News in brief

**PAKISTAN** U.S. President George W. Bush said yesterday the United States has made it clear to Pakistan that it will do whatever is necessary to protect American soldiers and civilians. Tensions have cropped up between the U.S. and Pakistan over U.S. drone strikes in pursuit of militants in the border region with Afghanistan.

**ARREST** Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich was arrested yesterday on corruption charges, including that he allegedly tried to sell the U.S. Senate seat vacated by president-elect Barack Obama.

### Women happier sex: Poll

**STUDY** Men are happier with money, while women find greater joy in friendships and relationships with their children, co-workers and bosses, a new global survey reveals.

The online survey of 28,153 people in more than 51 countries by global marketing and information firm Nielsen found that as the world grapples with a recession and financial markets remain volatile, many people are reminding themselves that money can't buy happiness.

The Nielsen happiness

study found that globally, women are happier than men in 48 of the 51 countries surveyed in April 2008, and only in Brazil, South Africa and Vietnam were men found to be happier than women.

"Because they are happier with non-economic factors, women's happiness is more recession-proof which might explain why women around the world are happier in general than men are," Nielsen vice-president of consumer research Bruce Paul said in a statement. **REUTERS**

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## Insight into Everest deaths

Brain swelling related to low oxygen in the air may have caused many of the deaths of people climbing Mount Everest, researchers said yesterday. **REUTERS**

## world 9

## Brazil Native protests



Native Brazilian Indians protest against a possible rule by the Supreme Court of the end of legality of an Indian reservation yesterday.

## UN urged to blacklist

An Indian government minister urged the UN Security Council yesterday to help punish anyone responsible for the deadly attacks in Mumbai by adding them to a UN terrorism blacklist.

"We have requested the Security Council to proscribe the Pakistani group Jamaat-ud-Dawa since it is a terrorist outfit," Indian Minister of State for External Affairs E. Ahamed told a special meeting of the Security Council on terrorism.

"All those who were in

**"All those who were in any way responsible for the Mumbai terrorist attacks ... should be brought to justice."**

E. Ahamed, Indian external affairs minister

any way responsible for the Mumbai terrorist attacks, wherever they may be, should be brought to justice," he said.

The charity Jamaat-ud-Dawa is widely regarded as a front for the Islamist militant group Lashkar-e-Taiba, which India says was behind the Mumbai at-

tacks that killed 179 people. Ahamed said he wanted the group added to the list of individuals and groups facing travel bans and asset freezes under Security Council resolution 1267, which imposed sanctions on supporters of al Qaeda, Osama bin Laden and the Taliban.

REUTERS

## Waves rock Papua New Guinea

**DISASTER** Huge waves caused by king tides smashed into dozens of villages and towns in northern Papua New Guinea, destroying homes and flooding businesses and a hospital.

Authorities said there were no reports of casual-

ties, but they were still trying to contact several outlying islands after the waves hit across an 800 km stretch yesterday.

Hundreds of people were left homeless.

The waves struck the north coast near the town of Wewak.

## News in brief

**NEGOTIATIONS** Nuclear disarmament negotiators gathered to discuss an agreement on rules about monitoring North Korea's nuclear activities in Beijing yesterday. North Korea partly disabled a nuclear facility this year in a disarmament-for-aid deal.

REUTERS



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# Comment & Views

## Let's retire the Queen

Canada needs to grow up and end an outdated practice

### The West View

**Paul Sullivan**

Journalist & media consultant

With apologies to Paul McCartney ... Her Majesty's a pretty nice girl, but why is she running my country?

As I've watched the remarkable events of the past week unfold, the most remarkable was the spectacle of Stephen Harper, hat in hand, tugging his forelock in the general direction of Michaëlle Jean, Mrs. Windsor's representative in Ottawa.

You're familiar with Mrs. Windsor? That nice old lady in London with the corsets and the celebrity grandchildren? Her Majesty?

There hasn't been a lot of talk about the suitability of that exchange; I guess because most of us are relieved that Ms. Jean, a former Radio-Canada reporter with not one iota of experience in governance, just granted the prime minis-

ter's wish, and Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition doesn't get to run the country, at least not yet.

But why do Mrs. Windsor and her envoy still run the country? Until last week, they have been little more than glorified lawn ornaments. Inviting them to your charity garden party adds instant class. But what if Ms. Jean, who probably doesn't like Mr. Harper any more than Mr. Harper likes her, had decided to give the reins of power to Stéphane Dion and the balance of power to Chief Blothead Gilles Duceppe?

For one thing, we'd hear a lot more squawking about how it's time to end this outdated ridiculous subservience to Prince Charles' Mom. Instead, a grateful nation has

decided to put aside any qualms about Ms. Jean, her former French citizenship, her rumoured separatist leanings, her absurd appointment as the Queen's representative, never mind the innate, fundamental absurdity of the Queen herself.

So what happens in January if Her Majesty's Loyal Etc. try to stick it to Stephen one more time? Back he goes, gripping his forelock, to visit Ms. Jean, and she informs him that "we are not amused," and turns the government over to Michael or Rae and their little dog Jack? She can do that! She's Mrs.

we should grow up.

Then, we should send Ms. Jean back to Radio-Canada, tell Mrs. Windsor that it's time to retire as the Queen of Canada, thanks for the memories. Then we elect a president at large (as everyone mistakenly believes they vote for the prime minister anyway), while preserving the parliamentary democracy that we've come to know and love.

We do this through proportional representation, so we get the parties and the policies we want exactly in proportion to the popular vote. Now that's democracy.

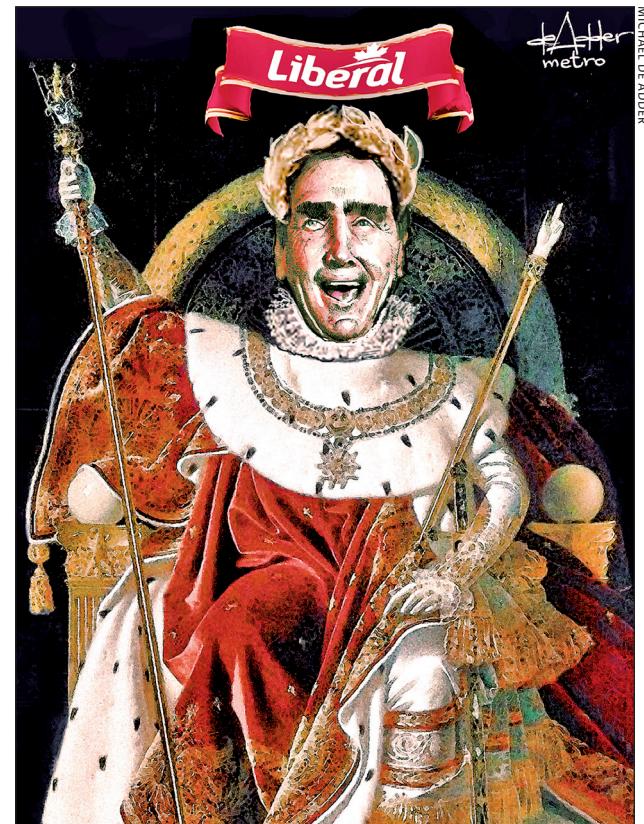
And God Save Mrs. Windsor for another day.

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting.

**We should send Ms. Jean back to Radio-Canada, tell Mrs. Windsor that it's time to retire as the Queen of Canada, thanks for the memories.**

Windsor's envoy. Mrs. Windsor runs the country!

I simply can't believe we're still letting this happen. Here's what we need to do: Immediately, as a nation,



### Letters

#### A paper and a positive attitude at Corona Station

I am writing to thank your very friendly newspaper distributor at Corona Station. He is the older gentleman who wears glasses. He is the most pleasant, happy person to have hand me a paper at 6:45 a.m., and he sets a great tone for people scurrying around at that hour. I appreciate his genuineness and his positive attitude — helped me to frame my day!

DEBRA RUSSELL, EDMONTON

#### A hunger for politics

I am sure many of us did not know that there was a word called "prorogue" and we all learned something new with this coalition agreement.

While we were discussing the newly discovered word "prorogue," somebody said this word sounds like "perogi/perogie."

That was that — we got a sudden craving for perogies. We decided to prorogue our session and go for a perogie break. I thought that was funny.

ANANT NAGPUR, OTTAWA

#### Thank goodness for women's voices on politics

Until recently, it was unusual to see women writing in the Comments section under regional and national media print and online political stories. That has changed, and now we see thoughtful comments from women in among mostly male comments.

I say thank goodness. It's about time women spoke up — they are about 50 per cent of eligible voters.

Too many women stayed away from the polls this last October election — I don't expect that to happen in those numbers next election as women realize they can make a difference.

DON WILSON, MASSTOWN, N.S.

#### Election worth the price tag

At this point the Liberal-NDP coalition will try to take power on the principle that "they can."

If this is allowed to proceed, every election which fails to give one party a majority will become a free-for-all, as all the parties try to form coalitions.

Let's go to the polls and let the people have their say — Tory or a Liberal-NDP-Bloc government. The cost of another election is small for getting a government which everyone will agree was actually elected by the people.

DAMIAN KANAREK, TORONTO

### Word on the street: What's the best holiday gift you've ever received?

#### Terence Doerksen

age 30, Edmonton

**A: I got these two big castles as a kid and I spent all Christmas with my dad putting everything together.**



#### Ken Neufeld

age 47, Edmonton

**A: While I was growing up, I got a crane and you had to assemble it and constantly move stuff around.**

#### Rayvan Mills

age 16, Calgary

**A: A movie, V for Vendetta, it's my favourite.**

#### Van Le

age 18, Calgary

**A: I think the best gift I've ever got was a PS2 game.**

#### Brian Stephenson

age 62, Toronto

**A: Really the best gift I could ever get is the chance to spend Christmas with my family.**

#### Jen Seymour

age 21, Abbotsford, B.C.

**A: An engagement ring. We were in Whistler on Christmas Eve in a chocolate shop and it was snowing.**

It's your turn to tell others what you think. E-mail your thoughts and opinions to: [edmontonletters@metronews.ca](mailto:edmontonletters@metronews.ca)

Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number — street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

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**Great-West Lifeco to issue \$1 billion in shares**

Great-West Lifeco Inc., Canada's second-largest life insurance company, said yesterday it plans to issue \$1 billion in common shares to the public and to its controlling shareholder, Power Financial Corp., to improve its capital strength. **REUTERS**

# Business

EDITOR: FERMIN DESOUZA, FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

## TSX slides on recession talk

Toronto's main stock index fell yesterday as the Bank of Canada's acknowledgement that the country is entering a recession hit heavily weighted financial shares, while lower oil prices weighed on some energy stocks.

The comments managed to sideswipe shares of banks and insurers given their close link to the economy, which sent the financial index down 5.34 per cent and stripped it of all

### Bank of Canada cuts interest rate

- The central bank cut its interest rate more aggressively than most economists had expected, bringing it to its lowest level since 1958 and declaring for the first time that the

economy is in recession. It lowered the overnight target rate by three-quarters of a percentage point to 1.5 per cent due to a worse global downturn than anticipated.

the gains recorded in the previous session.

"All this talk about a recession really affects sentiment for the banks and financials because they are

heavily exposed to the economy," said Elvis Picardo, analyst and strategist at Global Securities in Vancouver. "And it's been frustrating for investors that

### Economy It's a 'bare' market



A store going out of business is seen in the Queens borough of New York yesterday. Despite gloomy government data showing half a million jobs were lost in November and drops in retail sales of more than 10 per cent at some stores, U.S. stocks jumped recently as investors bet that a steep drop in oil prices will boost consumer spending and lift retail stocks.

### Business in brief

**OIL** Global economic turmoil and skidding oil prices have yet to cause Canadian oil companies to resort to large-scale

job cuts, but harder measures will be coming if the industry's prospects don't improve, experts say. The companies are

struggling with low oil and natural-gas prices and high costs for big projects.

REUTERS

the markets are simply unable to put together a string of successive advances."

The slide followed the market's 450-point rally Monday and extended a pattern that has been firmly in place for months, where big gains are almost always followed by triple-digit losses.

The S&P/TSX composite index closed down 169.56 points, or 1.98 per cent, at 8,397.56.

REUTERS

### Telecom profit levels to be flatter

**FORECAST** Profits for the telecom industry will become flatter in the face of falling demand due to the worsening economy and new competition in the wireless market, according to a forecast yesterday by the Conference Board of Canada.

The outlook forecast annual combined profits of about \$7 billion between 2008 and 2011.

The board had calculated that industry profits for 2006 and 2007 were \$5.6 billion and \$6.5 billion, respectively.

At the forefront of the industry's woes is the collapse of the BCE buyout, the biggest leveraged buyout in the world, which was derailed after KPMG said the deal would leave BCE insolvent.

Though demand for wireless services is driving growth, "profit levels will remain flat over the next few years."

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The NFL announced yesterday that it is cutting more than 10 per cent of its staff in response to the downturn in the U.S. economy. The league is eliminating about 150 of its staff of 1,100 in New York, New Jersey and Los Angeles. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

# Sports

SPORTS@METRONEWS.CA

**Melrose lets fly on Lightning**

**NHL** While a guest on Toronto's FAN 590 yesterday, ex-Tampa Bay Lightning coach Barry Melrose sounded off on his former club, saying that during his short tenure he dealt with constant interference from people in the organization.

**Melrose** "I had guys in Tampa who wanted to run the team and I wouldn't let them. I was hired to coach and I coached," Melrose said.

**"I hope Tampa Bay doesn't win a game in the next year."**

Barry Melrose

"Every day was a constant battle."

Melrose was fired less than a month ago, only 16 games into the season. In the 11 games they have played since, the Lightning has only won once. When asked if that made him happy, he said, "Yeah it does, and any coach who tells you otherwise is a liar," Melrose told the FAN. "I hope Tampa Bay doesn't win a game in the next year."

Melrose also criticized Lightning forward Steven Stamkos, the first pick in the 2008 draft.

"Steven is not ready for the NHL," Melrose said. "Right now he's just not strong enough physically to play against defence-men who are six-foot-three or six-foot-four that can skate as good as him."

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**



## K-Rod to Mets

The New York Mets have agreed to a three-year deal with free-agent closer Francisco Rodriguez, ESPN reported yesterday. Rodriguez's deal, worth \$37 million US, is pending a physical, which the New York Post reports will take place today. Rodriguez broke the Major League saves record last season for the Angels with 62.

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**

# Zapped from nightmare

**Dan Boyle pleased to be in new surroundings in San Jose**

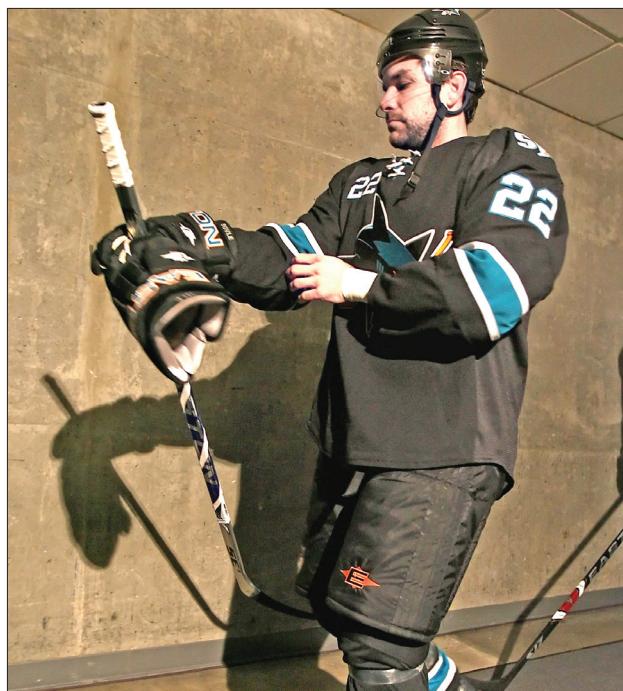
**MATTHEW WUEST**  
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

**Dan Boyle can't hide the hint of satisfaction he gets out of seeing the Tampa Bay Lightning in the NHL basement.**

"I'm only human, right?" Boyle joked. "But to see what has happened out there, it's probably more sad than anything for me because I still think it's a great place to play and it's very unfortunate all this stuff is going on."

The 32-year-old defenceman didn't realize it at the time, but the Lightning gave him the equivalent of a get-out-of-jail-free card when they kicked him to the curb in July after new owners Oren Koules and Len Barrie took over.

Boyle, who was asked to waive his no-trade clause before the ink had dried on his new six-year contract, ended up being dealt to the San Jose Sharks. While the Koules-Barrie overhaul has Tampa Bay (6-



The Sharks' Dan Boyle is second among NHL defencemen in scoring with 24 points.

13-8) bumbling in controversy and incompetence, Boyle and the Sharks (22-3-2) are the NHL's best team.

"I was planning to be (in Tampa Bay) for a while, but

having seen the way some guys have been treated there and what's gone on so far, and on top of that, how I've been treated here, I have no regrets whatsoever," Boyle said.

Boyle, who is second among NHL blue-liners with 10 goals and 14 assists for 24 points in 25 games, is hearing whispers he could be a Norris Trophy candidate if he keeps it up.

Although Boyle won a Stanley Cup with the Lightning in 2004, he calls the Sharks the "best team I've been on." But he is also aware the Sharks have been perennial under-achievers in the post-season and wants to help erase that label.

"Playoff hockey, as we all know, is totally different," Boyle said.

"We had a pretty good team in '04. We stepped it up to the next level in the playoffs. Until we get there, until we do that with the Sharks, it remains to be seen."

## Paralympian Petitclerc captures Lou Marsh Trophy

After winning five gold medals at the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games, wheelchair racer Chantal Petitclerc was awarded the Lou Marsh Trophy yesterday as Canada's top athlete this year.

A panel made up of sports journalists and luminaries from around the country judges the award,

named for the former Toronto Star sports editor. This year, former Olympic rower and 1991 Lou Marsh winner Silken Laumann headed the awards committee.

After her last win in Beijing, her coach, Peter Eriksson, told reporters, "I

would say she is one of the greatest Canadian athletes, period."

Competing at Beijing in the T54 class for athletes with different levels of spinal cord injuries

and amputations, she won the 200- and 800-metre races within 90 minutes of each other, setting two world records.

She also won the 400 in record time and the 100 before finishing up in the 1,500 with a win by more than one second over her closest rival.

**TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**



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## Sports in brief

**FOOTBALL** University of Alberta offensive lineman Simeon Rottier was named yesterday to participate in the East-West Shrine game next month in Houston. Rottier joins Etienne Legare, a Laval defensive lineman, as the two Canadians chosen. The game is a showcase of top U.S. college football players and will be played Jan 17.

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**

## York Report

### Marty York



will return

# Automotive

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## More zoom for Mazda3

Megaseller's feisty spirit alive and well in revamped model

JIM ROBINSON  
for Metro Canada



**Imagine you're in the shoes of Yoshiyuki Meada. He's the program manager for the 2010 Mazda3 and his job is to fix something that isn't broken.**

One of every three Mazda vehicles sold around the world is a Mazda3. In Canada, the Mazda3 has improved in sales every year since it was introduced in 2003. In fact, 2008 will set another sales record, with people lining up to get a little Zoom Zoom in their lives.

What Meada did was take the overall Mazda3 design concept and keep what was working and refine the rest.

To get everyone on board, he insisted on designers and engineers from Mazda's styling centres visiting each other's countries to talk about the car and learn what consumers in different parts of the world were thinking. His idea was to instill what Mazda calls "the emotion of motion."

Although the 2010 and the current Mazda3 have virtually the same dimensions, much attention was paid to aerodynamics with things like panels under the body to smooth air flow with the car's overall coefficient of drag going from 0.31 down to 0.29.

The biggest visual change is the much-enlarged grille. While it retains the Mazda five-point design, the wide mouth is there, not just for improved cooling, but is an actual part of the aero package.

The cabin area underwent not just a major redesign with liberal use of soft-touch materials, but the switch to what Mazda



The 2010 Mazda3 sees a host of changes designed to improve on the outgoing model that was one of the most successful cars in the history of the company.

### 2010 Mazda3

**Type:** Compact sedan  
**Price:** Not available  
**Engine:** 2.0-litre DOHC inline four-cylinder; 2.5-litre DOHC inline four-cylinder  
**HP:** 148-167

### Highlights

- Front-wheel drive
- Fuel-efficient
- Aerodynamic

calls a Zone Layout.

Instrumentation is placed in zones of importance based on eye movement, the primary ones being the large tachometer on the left and speedometer on the right in pods directly in the line of sight of the driver.

Housed in a second zone is a Multi Information Dis-



The interior of the 2010 Mazda3 is much changed, including a second-tier Multi Information Display (MID) at the top of the centre stack.

play (MID) on the centre of the dash and raised 100 mm higher and to the right of the main gauges. Positioned here, it is still in the line of sight. Depending on the model and options, it shows fuel consumption, distance and

even a 3.5-inch colour navigation screen.

The four-door sedan tested here will arrive in the early spring along with a five-door Sportback hatch in three levels of trim: GX, GS and GT.

The 2.0-litre, DOHC in-

line four-cylinder engine that helped Mazda3 sales take off in 2008 is offered on the GX and GS. It produces 148 hp and 135 lb/ft of torque and comes with as standard five-speed automatic transmission or optional five-speed automatic driving the front wheels.

Fuel consumption numbers for the 2.0-litre manual and automatic are 8.1/5.9L/100 km city/highway and 8.6L/5.9L/100 km city/highway respectively.

Pricing will not be announced until early in January but it should be pretty much the same at the 2009, with the base car starting around \$17,000 and the GT with automatic.

While my time with this car was brief, there's little doubt the Zoom Zoom spirit is alive and well in the 2010 Mazda3.

## Winter safety on thin ice

**SURVEY** A recent GMAC Insurance survey in the U.S. revealed many drivers are stumped when it comes to proper safety procedures for winter weather driving.

Of the more than 5,000 licensed drivers surveyed across the nation, GMAC Insurance found several startling facts about driver competency during frozen or snowy conditions:

- 46 per cent were unaware their gas tank should be at least half full in order to continue providing heat in case of an emergency.
- 38 per cent didn't know driving while using cruise control, even in clear conditions, could be dangerous.
- 24 per cent did not know to turn the wheel in the direction of a skid.

One of the most significant misconceptions revealed in the survey was in regards to vehicles equipped with four-wheel drive. While four-wheel drive helps with traction in snow and ice, it does not replace good driving practices and taking the right precautions to stay safe.

Nevertheless, the GMAC Insurance survey showed that 70 per cent of drivers may exhibit a false sense of security when driving in snowy weather if their vehicle was equipped with four-wheel drive:

- 37 per cent feel they are less likely to have an accident.
- 21 per cent would drive during and right after a snowstorm.
- Nine per cent would feel superior to cars without four-wheel drive.
- Three per cent would drive faster than they would with only two-wheel drive.

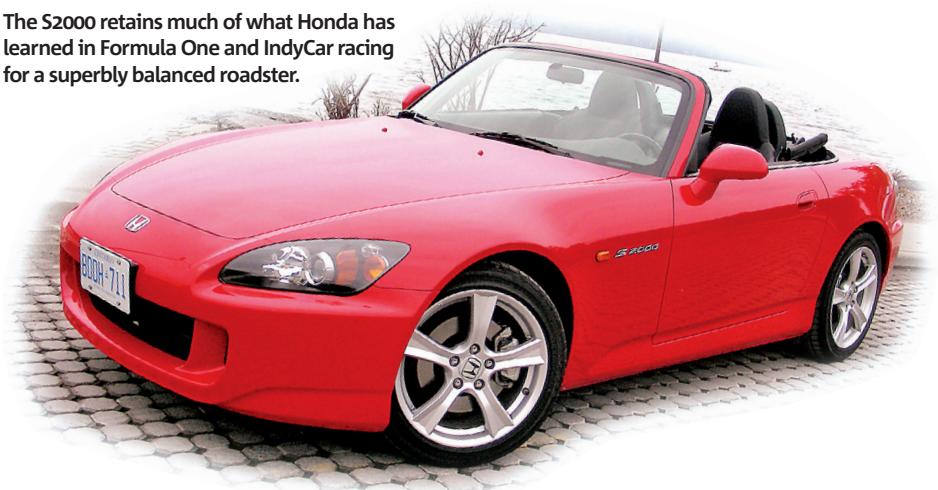
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The S2000 retains much of what Honda has learned in Formula One and IndyCar racing for a superbly balanced roadster.



## Highway star

JIM ROBINSON  
for Metro Canada

### 2008 Honda S2000

**Type:** Performance roadster  
**Price:** \$50,600  
**Engine:** 2.2-litre, DOHC inline four-cylinder engine  
**HP:** 237

#### Highlights

- Rear-wheel drive
- Well-equipped
- Affordable roadster

lector car in the future.

When you look at it objectively, it's really a decade old and should be well behind current levels of performance and handling. But that's not the case.

I first saw what was to become the S2000 in 1995. It was a concept car called the SSM and about the size of a Mazda Miata. Frankly, it did not have the perky looks of the Miata so I dismissed it as just another exercise to gauge public reaction.

So that's why, in my opinion, occasionally enjoying the freedom a car can give is something to be savoured. Which brings me around to the 2008 Honda S2000, a roadster you don't see a lot, but is considered by some as one of the great sportscars of the market and a sure col-

founding of the company that was taking place in 2000, thus the name. It also was the turning of the millennium, so Honda poured all its expertise into the car.

Incorporating the knowledge gained from Formula One and IndyCar, it had an engine of just 2.0-litres displacement with a carbon-fibre reinforced block and super-light forged-alloy pistons. Because this car was designed from the outset to rev to 9,000 rpm, special bearing alloys were used right out of IndyCar. Producing an amazing 240 hp, albeit at 8,600 rpm in the year 2000, the powerplant set new production car standards for volumetric efficiency.

Today the engine is larger at 2.2-litres producing 237 hp at 8,000 rpm with 162 lb/ft of torque. It remains today as the highest specific horsepower/litre normally aspirated production engine on the market. Fuel consumption is listed as 11.8L/100 km city and 8.4L/100 km highway.

The front suspension is racecar-derived double wishbones with shocks custom-fitted to soak up most road irregularities. This, along with a multi-link rear system that incorporates a TORSEN (TORque SENsing) differential, lets the suspension do the work. This allows the exceptionally rigid chassis to be free from classic cowl shake or axle tramping as the rear tires go over bumps or railroad tracks.

The front/rear weight distribution is a perfect 50/50 thanks to the engine sitting back so far back that it is almost mid-engined.

As you can guess, the S2000 is all about revs, or better yet, keeping them up.

From launch, you ease in the clutch and you feed in the gas sharply then go for second asap. After that, the traction starts to kick in and you soon find the combination of a stiff platform, compliant suspension and ability to squirt and turn thanks to the 50/50 weight bias results in a very pointable car.



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## Southwest slashes flights

Southwest Airlines Co. says it will cut flights as it scales back slightly to deal with the recent dip in travel demand. They're the latest U.S. carrier to reduce capacity, with a net reduction of 13 roundtrip flights across its system. **REUTERS**

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# Travel



## Advantage files for bankruptcy

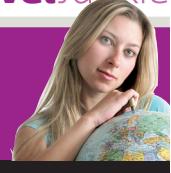
Car rental chain **Advantage Rent-A-Car Inc.** has filed for bankruptcy protection and closed about 40 per cent of its U.S. retail locations, citing a decline in the travel industry as customers cut their travel and discretionary spending. The company said it laid off 440 workers, or almost half its workforce. **Advantage** said it will continue operating at its remaining locations during the bankruptcy, and is exploring strategic alternatives, including a possible sale or merger. **REUTERS**

TRAVELDESK@METRONEWS.CA

# Travel (and get paid to write about it)

TheTravelJunkie

**Julia Dimon**



thetraveljunkie.ca

et setting around the world (and getting paid for it), the life of a travel writer is a glamorous one. Trying to get into this coveted and competitive career isn't easy, prompting many to ask: How do I break into the biz? I regularly get e-mails from readers asking for advice. While I do my best to share what I know, it's nice to get a second opinion.

Meet David Farley, a New York-based writer who teaches travel writing at New York University. He has been widely published



COURTESY DAVID FARLEY

Travel writer David Farley in Calcata, Italy, where he lived while working on his upcoming book, *An Irreverent Curiosity*.

and is the author of the soon-to-be-released travel book, *An Irreverent Curiosity: In Search of the Church's Strangest Relic in Italy's Oddest Town*, available next spring.

David shares his expertise on how you can break into the travel writing biz: **TAKE A TRAVEL WRITING**

**COURSE** offered by schools in your area.

**READ BOOKS ABOUT THE WRITING CRAFT.** Travel Writing by Don George and published by Lonely Planet is a great place to start.

**READ ARTICLES WRITTEN BY CELEBRATED TRAVEL WRITERS.** The best travel writing captures a sense of place. Tap

into your five senses to bring the place alive, adding depth and vividness to your descriptions. Add quotes and historical/political context to situate the destination.

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**GO ONE STEP BEYOND** the realm of an average tourist. Like a reporter, you must talk to people, arrange interviews and get relevant quotes.

**MOST TRAVEL EDITORS DON'T WANT TO READ PROPOSALS,** they want to see the finished article, already written and polished. Find out the e-mail address of a

newspaper's travel editor and send it on. If that editor wants the piece, they'll buy it from you.

**PITCH YOUR WORK** to local papers, magazines, newsletters and travel websites. Try to get published anywhere and everywhere.

**TRAVEL WRITERS DON'T MAKE MUCH MONEY.** On assignment, it's nice hotels; at home, it's bare cupboards and ramen noodles. Few people can make a living solely from it. Either stick

to your day job and write on the side, or become a full-time writer that focuses on travel, but also writes about other passions.

**DRIVE IS MOST IMPORTANT TO SUCCEED.** The most successful students I've taught weren't the most talented, but rather the most determined.

Good luck and safe travels.

Julia Dimon is co-host of Word Travels, airing on OLN, and editor of thetraveljunkie.ca.

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The Producers Guild of America have honoured the movie *Milk* with its Stanley Kramer Award, for its portrayal of the first openly gay man elected to major public office in the U.S. The prize is handed out to movies that take on provocative social issues. [IMDB.COM](http://IMDB.COM)

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# Entertainment

EDITOR: TINA COSTANZA, [TINA.COSTANZA@METRONEWS.CA](mailto:TINA.COSTANZA@METRONEWS.CA)

## Seeking redemption

Love scene put Will Smith on defensive in *Seven Pounds*

ROBERT ABELE  
for Metro Canada

**Will Smith's status as the world's biggest movie star — whether as an earth defender (*Independence Day*), superhero (*Hancock*), or last man standing (*I Am Legend*) — doesn't make it any easier for the actor to handle love scenes.**

In his newest film, the drama *Seven Pounds*, Smith's character — a haunted man seeking redemption — finds romantic solace one night in the arms of a cardiac patient played by Rosario Dawson.

No such solace existed for Smith on the set for those moments.

"Will is shockingly shy about intimacy with strangers," says Dawson, who says her gregarious, hard-working co-star pushed the filming of their kissing scenes for weeks, "to the point where I started getting nervous about my breath."

And when it came to that day's filming, she noticed Smith revving up for it by loudly proclaiming to himself, "Yeah, we're gonna GET this scene! Whooo! Yeah, I'm ready to go today!"

"I was like, 'You're kind of freakin' me out, like I



Will Smith and Rosario Dawson star in the new movie *Seven Pounds*.

need a little calm to go into this, some candles and nice music, and you're screaming like you're playing football or something," said Dawson, laughing at the memory.

"But it was so sweet. Everybody could tell he was really nervous."

Smith, whose wife of many years is actress Jada Pinkett Smith, smiles good-naturedly in talking about his on-camera skittishness regarding sex.

He explains it by saying that he lives in fear that a

woman cast opposite him in those moments will look at her famous married scene partner as an opportunistic groper.

"I need women to be comfortable around me, and doing a love scene with our clothes off just puts me in a defensive space," he said. "But it also hurts the acting if I'm in that space."

The idea, he said, is to get to a comfortable point, "Where a hand can brush up against her and it's not, 'Oh, excuse me.'"

At least his romantic in-

terlude in *Seven Pounds* was a necessary one for a story whose message of renewal in the face of debilitating trauma has come to mean everything for its relentlessly positive and upbeat star/producer.

"The spring is always coming," says Smith. "And this character didn't realize that. He didn't know that what got broken could be repaired. And I love that transformative power of love, how you've got to be prepared to catch the wave of new life."

## Ruffalo's brother dies after shooting

**CRIME** Actor Mark Ruffalo's brother has died a week after he was found at his Beverly Hills home with a gunshot wound to the head, police said yesterday.

Scott Ruffalo, 39, a hair stylist, was taken off life

support Monday night, police said.

Ruffalo died hours after a woman wanted by police in connection with the shooting — Shaha Mishaal Adham, 26 — turned herself in and was charged with attempted murder.

In the wake of Ruffalo's death, she is expected to be charged with murder. Brian Scofield, 29, who police named as a "person of interest" in the case, turned himself in along with Adham but he has since been released.

REUTERS

### In brief

**TV** The *Simpsons*, television's longest-running comedy, leads the nominations for the Writers Guild of America's annual broadcasting awards. The series was one of five nominees for best comedy series, along with *30 Rock*, *The Office*, *Entourage* and *Weeds*.

REUTERS

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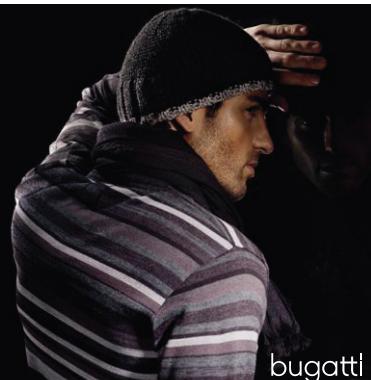
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## Doherty's role not dead

Stars of the new 90210 are putting to rest rumours that Shannen Doherty's character Brenda Walsh will be killed off. **E! NEWS ONLINE**

## entertainment 17

## Leno leading prime time

## IntelleVision

**Rick McGinnis**

rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

**TALKED TO DEATH:** Jay Leno's career has been an anxious curiosity ever since NBC let it be known that his Tonight Show slot was being handed over to Conan O'Brien, and for months now everybody — including Leno — has been acting like he'd be moving to ABC as soon as Jeff Zucker and NBC would let him slip free of the bonds of his contract.

That bit of conventional wisdom was knocked on the head yesterday with the news that NBC would be giving Leno a 10 p.m. weekday slot for a new talk show, starting in the fall of 2009. As things stand now, that means three different talk show slots on the network running from primetime to late night, with Leno, O'Brien and Jimmy Fallon all on NBC's payroll as hosts. (Or 3 1/2, according

to the L.A. Weekly's Nikki Finke, who reminds us of Carson Daly's spot on NBC's schedule, which seems charitable of her.)

The decision might look like NBC belatedly acknowledging Leno's value to the network, but it has more to do with Zucker and programming henchman Ben Silverman's singular focus on the bottom line, and their fervent intention to cut down on the number of weekly hours of network programming. Any way you look at it, it's a cost-cutting move.

Leno as the lead-in for local news shows at 11 p.m. will play well with NBC affiliate stations all over the U.S., though the move is betting everything on Leno's late night audience figuring out how to record CSI on their PVRs so they can tune in — a big gamble since Leno's numbers rely heavily on older viewers who aren't as comfortable with changing long-standing habits or delayed viewing.

Patt Morrison of the Los Angeles Times sees the boomer/oldster angle as the story, and not the network penny-pinching.

"Leno at 10?" Morrison wrote on a Times blog. "From The Tonight Show to The Evening Show? Pretty soon the nation will be lining up for the seniors' Early Bird Dinner Special at 4 p.m., and then coming home to fall asleep right after the Leno monologue, if there is one on the new show, and finally waking up at 3 a.m. to a screaming bladder and screaming infomercials."

And so a generation begins passing from view in a fog of drowsiness and incontinence.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.

See complete online movie listings, trailers, reviews and purchase tickets at [metronews.ca/movies](http://metronews.ca/movies)

## GlobalStyle

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	C	B	S	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
	2	CFRN	239 318	etalk	Hollywood	CSI: NY "The Triangle"		Law & Order "Sweetie"		Criminal Minds (N)		News (N)
	3	KHQ	- 370	News (N)	Be-Millionaire	College Basketball Gonzaga at Washington State. (Live)				Life "Canyon Flowers"		Law & Order
	4	CBXT	- 307	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	The Santa Clause *** (1994, Comedy) Tim Allen.				CBC News: The National		The Hour
	6	KREM	- 372	News (N)	Hollywood	The Doctors (N)		Old Christine	Gary Unmarr	Criminal Minds (HDTV)		CSI: NY
	7	CKEM	241 347	Law & Order: SVU		Stylista (N)		Little Spirit: Christmas		I Love Money		Your City
	8	CITV	240 339	ET Canada	Entertainment	Bones		Bones (HDTV PA)		The Guard (N)		News Hour
	12	CBXFT	119 705	Virginie (SC)	L'Épicerie	Le Match des étoiles (N) (SC)		M pour musique (HDTV) (SC)		Le Téléjournal (N) (SC)		TJ Alberta
	13	KXLY	- 371	4 News at 6	4 News at 6:30	Entertainment	The Insider (N)	Pushing Daisies (N)		Private Practice (N)		Sexy Money
	16	KAYU	- 373	The Simpsons	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men		Secret Millionaire (N)		Bones (HDTV PA)		News (N)
	19	CHTV	-	The Insider (N)	E! News	True Hollywood Story		Secret Millionaire (N)		2008: Big Stars, Big Stories (N)		News (N)
	22	KSPS	- 374	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	Emperors of the Ice			A Holly Jolly Pops Holiday		P.O.V. "Inheritance" (HDTV) (N)		
	24	WTVS	- 364	Armenian Am.	The Armenian Genocide			Great Big Sea in Concert				Suze Orman: Women & Money
	15	CBCN	502	-	CBC News: The National	Extreme Speed		CBC News: The National		CBC News: The National		Extreme
	21	TWN	505 398	(5) EarthWatch One	EarthWatch One			EarthWatch Two				
	27	CNN	500 500	Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)				Larry King Live		Cooper 360
	54	CTVN	501 391	CTV Newsnet		News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News
	70	BNN	504 508	Squeeze Play		Market Call		Headline	Market Call	Commodities	Business News	Squeeze Play
	20	TSN	400 400	NHL Hockey		SportsCentre (HDTV) (Live)		Off the Record		UEFA Champions League Soccer		
	23	net	408 418	Ultimate Fight Night (HDTV) (Live)						Sportsnet Connected		Ult. Fighter
	47	SPEED	417 406	Pinks	Pinks Outtakes	Wrecked	Wrecked	Pinks	Pass Time	Am. Thunder	Am. Thunder	Pinks
	94	SCORE	410 403	Basketball	Score Tonight		NBA Basketball	Phoenix Suns at Los Angeles Lakers. (Live)				Final Score
	9	EDACC	267 351	Arts & Minds	Arts & Minds	Dirty Sexy Money (N)		Pushing Daisies (N)		Private Practice (N)		Arts & Minds
	14	YTV	552 543	Drake & Josh	iCarly	Romeo!	Home Improve.	Fresh Prince	Sabrina-Witch	Futurama	Prank Patrol	Mystery Hnt.
	17	TREE	553 546	Christmas	Miss Spider	Comfy Couch	Rolie Polie Olie	Beren. Bears	Babar	Backyardigans	Dora-Explorer	Go, Diego, Go!
	42	TOON	555 545	6teen (DVS)		Santa Claus	Bugs Bunny & Tweety Show	Wayside	Johnny Test	Futurama	The Critic	
	45	FAM	557 541	Zoey 101	Life Derek	Wizards-Place	That's-Raven	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School
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	18	CMT	575 583	Reba	Reba	Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	Three Wishes		Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Reba
	25	A&E	615 520	Dog the Bounty Hunter		Parking Wars	Parking Wars	Parking Wars		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter
	26	MMM	571 581	Revival	Where You At	Fabulous Life Of... Homes.		Party of Five		Fabulous Life Of... Homes.		Party of Five
	29	FOOD	603 561	Iron Chef America		Top Chef		Dinner Imposs.	Dinner Imposs.	Challenge Candy castles.		Iron Chef Am.
	31	SHOW	617 522	EastEnders	Saxondale	Kink in Hair	Kink in Hair	Durham County		Billable Hours	G-Spot	Starter Wife
	32	DISC	520 505	Monster Moves		Mayday		Daily Planet		MythBusters		Cash Cab
	33	SLICE	601 562	Real Housewives of OC		Filthy Rich: Cattle Drive (N)		ET Canada	Matchmaker	Real Housewives of OC		Trading Sp
	34	W	602 567	Shopping Bags	Style by Jury	Will & Grace	Friends	Grocery Bag	Maxed Out	Supersize vs. Superskinny		Got the Look
	35	TLC	521 560	Jon & Kate Plus 8		Solved Ophthalmologist.		Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate Plus 8		Solved
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	38	SPIKE	628 584	UFC Fight for the Troops (HDTV) (Live)						UFC Fight for the Troops (HDTV)		
	40	HIST	522 506	Captain Cook: Obsession		NCIS "Switch"		Crime Stories		Cities of the Underworld		Dig for Truth
	41	COM	626 547	Laughs	Comedy Now	Air Farce	Just for Laughs		Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	House Party
	43	SPACE	627 528	Battlestar Galactica		Ghost Hunters International (N)		Stargate SG-1 "Tin Man"		Lost "I Do"		Deep Space 9
	44	WPCH	294 650	(6) Conspiracy Theory (1997, Suspense)		Seinfeld		Family Guy	Family Guy	(10:15) Conspiracy Theory (1997, Suspense)		
	46	OLN	411 457	Adventures	Ed's Up	Word Travels	Pilot Guides	Pilot Guides		Don't Forget Your Passport		Adventures
	48	TROP	619 525	Reality	Ad Persuasion	Beverly Hills, 90210		Reality	What Happen?	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld
	50	STAR	621 527	Scoring With the Stars		The Tonight Show-Jay Leno		TMZ	etalk	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		Hollywood
	52	HGTV	600 564	Property Virgin	Unsellable	Million Dollar Listing		Holmes on Homes		Mansions	The Stagers	Property Virgin
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	92	APTN	269 350	APTN National News: Contact		Copper Thunderbird		Canadian Geographic		Tribal Treks	Guides	Wings-Canada
	93	VISION	261 394	Secret Santa ** (2003, Drama)	Jennie Garth, Steve Eckholdt.		Doc 'Tis the Season"		Secret Santa ** (2003, Drama)	Jennie Garth.		
	100	MTV	581 566	Super Sweet	The Hills	Dance Life	Dance Life	MTV Live	After	A Double Shot of Love		Dance Life
	101	MM	570 580	Pimp My Ride	Pimp My Ride	Degrassi: Next	Degrassi: Next	PunchMUCH		50 Cent: Money and Power		disBand
	102	CPAC	512 396	(6:30) Headline Politics		Revue		Question Period		Prime-Politics	Headline Politics	
	103	VIVA	526 507	The West Wing		Mediums	Psychic Detect	Mediums	Encounters	Judging Amy		Commander
	105	TV5	145 761	Ca se soigne	Les Filles,	Partir	Facteur	Journal TV5	Spécial présidence de l'Union européenne			Expression
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**Holloway is going to be a dad**  
Lost star Josh Holloway is going to be a daddy. The actor and his wife, Yessica, are expecting their first child, due next year. [PEOPLE.COM](http://PEOPLE.COM)

## Celebrity Buzz

# Friends rely on Smith for advice

**MARRIAGE** Actor Will Smith is under pressure from his famous friends to make his marriage to wife Jada Pinkett Smith work because they're constantly coming to him for relationship advice, [imdb.com](http://imdb.com) reports.

The tight-knit couple are preparing to celebrate their 11th year of married life on Dec. 31. But Smith's famous pals have "terrified" him by marking their union as the golden standard in Hollywood.

"I was with (rapper) Redman the other day (and) he said, 'Man, listen. I've got this relationship that I'm trying to make work, but I'm telling you, if you and Jada don't work, I'm done,'" Smith tells [PEOPLE.COM](http://PEOPLE.COM). "That so terrifies me that there are people's lives that I can affect like that just with little stuff, not even having to do anything big. So I don't want to break that ... I might mess something up, and that sorta keeps me in a

place where I'm really focused and paying attention, and I just don't want to step wrongly."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



## Lohan to write of split

**PEOPLE** Lindsay Lohan is begging the paparazzi to stop asking her if she's split from girlfriend Samantha Ronson, assuring fans she'd write the news on her blog if they ever broke up, [imdb.com](http://imdb.com) reports.

Rumours have swirled about the couple's relationship status since they began dating earlier this year.

They have repeatedly denied splitting, and Lohan has once



again taken to her MySpace.com blog to "prove all the liars wrong" — less than a week after slamming previous break-up reports.

"(The paparazzi) should just stop asking altogether, once and for all if she and I are broken up because frankly, if we ever, ever did ... I would say it before they could even think of asking ... I'd say it here probably," Lohan wrote.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

## Anderson outfit shocks crowd

**PEOPLE** Pamela Anderson stunned onlookers when she arrived at a prestigious art fair wearing just a T-shirt and underwear, [femalefirst.co.uk](http://femalefirst.co.uk) reports.

The actress seemed unaware of the controversy she was causing at the Art Basel Miami Beach fair, and later posed for photographs bending over paintings with her butt in the air.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



# Smith defends Grey's bosses

**CAREER** Actress Brooke Smith has defended her former TV bosses at Grey's Anatomy, insisting she has "no hard feelings" after her lesbian character was written out of the show, [imdb.com](http://imdb.com) reports.

Network bosses announced Smith would be axed from the show last month, sparking rumours she was written out of the series in a bid to end her character Dr. Erica Hahn's burgeoning homosexual affair.

Grey's creator Shonda Rhimes refuted the reports, telling [Us Weekly](http://UsWeekly.com), "Brooke Smith was obviously not fired for playing a lesbian. Clearly it's not an issue as we have a lesbian character on the show — Calliope Torres (Sara Ramirez). Unfortunately, we did not

find that the magic and chemistry with Brooke's character would sustain in the long run."

Actor Isaiah Washington, who was let go from the show last year, lashed out at his former bosses, calling their decision to cut Smith "disgusting."

But Smith has defended Rhimes, adding, "It's an end of a chapter. It was a good experience. I'd played gay characters before, and

I don't think that's going to end. There's no hard feelings. I have other projects now, so it is what it is."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



## Twain's dating sparks rumours

**RELATIONSHIPS** Singer Shania Twain has sparked reports she's dating the husband of the woman her ex is alleged to have had an affair with after the mystery man was spotted escorting Twain around New York recently, [femalefirst.co.uk](http://femalefirst.co.uk) reports.

Twain split from her husband Robert (Mutt) Lang in May, following his

revelation that he was romancing the couple's longtime secretary Marie-Anne Thiebaud, who was the manager of their Swiss estate.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

## Jolie spends less on Pitt

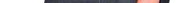
**PEOPLE** It appears even stars are affected by the recession.

In Touch has learned that Angelina Jolie's 45th birthday present to Brad Pitt will be another motorcycle. But this year's base price on the new Ducati is \$12,000 US — much less compared to last year's gift that cost a reported \$100,000.

Still, Jolie knows what Pitt likes, [intouchweekly.com](http://intouchweekly.com) reports.

"Since Angie is always in a dilemma of what to buy Brad, she's getting him the new Ducati Monster 1100S titanium," an insider tells In Touch.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



## I weigh 200: Winfrey

**HEALTH** In the January's [O](http://Omagazine.com) magazine, Oprah Winfrey confesses that she now weighs 200 pounds and has "fallen off the wagon," [usmagazine.com](http://usmagazine.com) reports.

"I'm mad at myself," writes Winfrey. "I'm embarrassed. I can't believe that after all these years, all the things I know how to do, I'm still talking about my weight. I look at my thinner self and think, 'How did I let this hap-

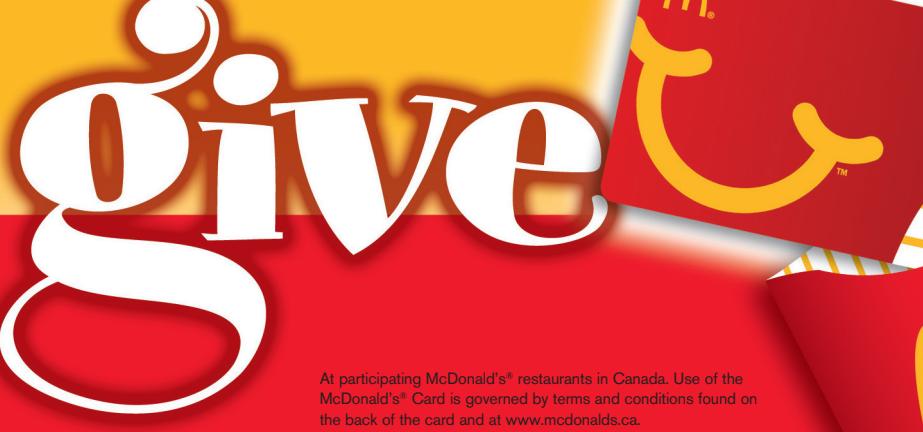
pen again?'

In the article, Winfrey says she has struggled with an out-of-balance thyroid and the condition made her develop "a fear of working out."

She confessed that she's packed on 40 pounds since she weighed 160 pounds in 2006.

"Yes, you're adding correctly; that means the dreaded 2-0-0," Winfrey says.

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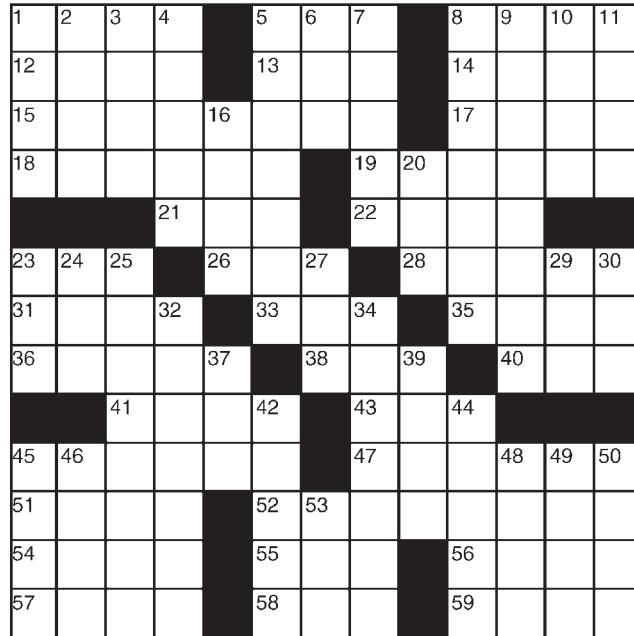
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**Michele McDougall, Weather Specialist & Host – Breakfast Television**

"My favorite part is reporting the weather. It fascinates me, and as we know around here, it's always changing, keeping forecasters on their toes."

WEEKDAYS AT 6 AM

**Crossword across**

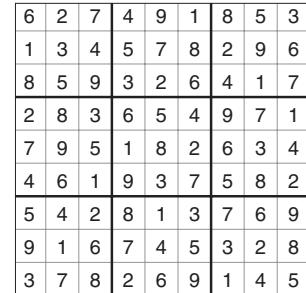
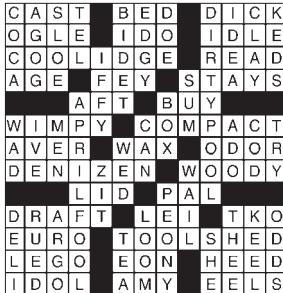
1 Malaria symptom  
 5 Bowl-shaped utensil  
 8 Vaulted alcove  
 12 Lion's share  
 13 Previous to  
 14 Litigant  
 15 Outdoor vendor's wagon  
 17 Scheme  
 18 Walk leisurely  
 19 1-Across component  
 21 Perch  
 22 Medal earner  
 23 Chart  
 26 Advanced deg.  
 28 Windsor's merry ones  
 31 Piece of work  
 33 Evergreen type

35 Literary sleuth Wolfe  
 36 After-dinner speech?  
 38 Runic letter (Var.)  
 40 Liotta or Romano  
 41 Burden  
 43 Bud's partner  
 45 Baffle  
 47 PC variety  
 51 Winged  
 52 Bulletin board  
 53 Accessories  
 54 Crooned  
 55 Indivisible  
 56 Ostriches' kin  
 57 Otherwise  
 58 Youngster  
 59 Leftovers

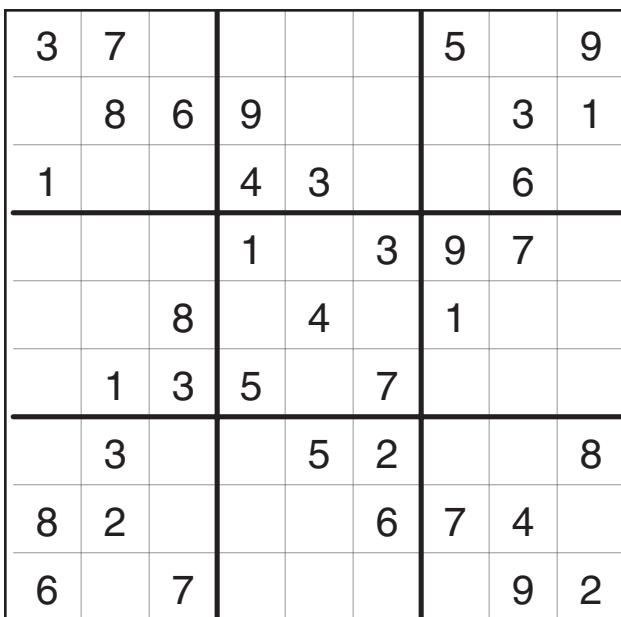
**Crossword down**

1 Roadie's burden, in part  
 2 Toe woe  
 3 "Back in the —"  
 4 Group character  
 5 Rich  
 6 Bobby of hockey  
 7 Sailing vessel  
 8 Headache remedy  
 9 Sweater type  
 10 Signet  
 11 Sea flock  
 16 Office holder?  
 20 Chop  
 23 Unruly bunch  
 24 Mimic  
 25 Sleeper cars

27 Morning moisture  
 29 Historic period  
 30 Sauce source  
 32 Cause of great pain  
 34 Established firmly  
 37 Owns  
 39 Ham's dad  
 42 Station  
 44 Top  
 45 Contemptible  
 46 Hebrew month  
 48 Opportunity  
 49 Responsibility  
 50 "Hey!"  
 53 Popular card game

**PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:**Find today's answers + play more games at [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca)**SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:**Under 13 min ..... Genius  
13-17 min ..... Scholar17-21 min ..... Smart  
21-25 min ..... Not bad  
25+ min ..... Keep practising**Sudoku**

**HOW TO PLAY:** Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

**Horoscopes****ARIES****MARCH 21-APRIL 20****TAURUS****APRIL 21-MAY 21**

Disbelief grows after a heated exchange. Something in the news will result in health benefits. Prepare to get up early tomorrow.

**LIBRA****SEPT 23-OCT 23**

A major life change is in the works. Prepare for a zany encounter. Be on your toes if scoundrels are around.

**SCORPIO****OCT 24-NOV 21**

A hair-raising adventure takes place. An insulted man makes too much of a bad thing. You are subjected to the whims of fate.

**GEMINI****MAY 22-JUNE 21**

Preoccupy yourself with a thriller. You'll wonder if you're under observation. A stranger needs better medication.

**SAGITTARIUS****NOV 23-DEC 21**

Take a careful look at a woman in red. Expect a phone call from a funny stranger. Kindness and compassion will cause a delay.

**CANCER****JUNE 22-JULY 22**

A family gathering will come up soon. Keep your eye on a close friend. Be prepared to come to the aid of a depressed person.

**CAPRICORN****DEC 22-JAN 20**

A minor crisis will be very amusing to bystanders. Don't hold your breath waiting for a reward. A surprise provides a trivial challenge.

**LEO****JULY 23-AUG 23**

Don't lose out in life by lying. Rational people want help with a decision. Don't feel guilty for having an outrageous argument.

**AQUARIUS****JAN 21-FEB 18**

Don't flinch when something wonderful happens. A dear friend is awaiting a divine event. People will talk about the good old days.

**VIRGO****AUG 24-SEPT 22**

Family problems will reveal a desperate wish. Be wise enough to stop when given a warning. Things will be changed before an announcement is made.

**PISCES****FEB 19-MARCH 20**

Maintain your sense of humour at all times. Unrealistic expectations will instigate a change. Difficult decisions will have to be made.

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**It's a Diamond Christmas at Independent Jewellers**

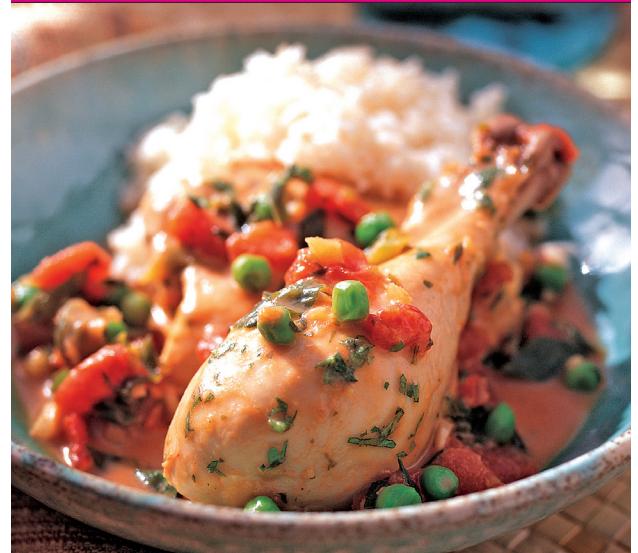
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**Take Five****Metro Recipe of the Day****Chicken with Peas and Cilantro****INGREDIENTS:**

3/4 cup (175 mL) canned crushed tomatoes  
 1/2 cup (125 mL) coconut milk  
 1/2 cup (125 mL) chopped cilantro  
 2 tbsp (25 mL) fresh lime juice  
 2 tbsp (25 mL) soy sauce  
 1 tbsp (15 mL) light brown sugar  
 3 scallions, thinly sliced  
 3 cloves garlic, minced  
 1 tbsp (15 mL) minced fresh ginger  
 1 tsp (5 mL) salt  
 1 whole chicken (about 3 1/2 lbs/2 kg), cut into 8 serving pieces, skin removed  
 1 cup (250 mL) rice  
 1 package (10 oz/285 g) frozen peas

mL) of salt.

- Add chicken to Dutch oven, turning to coat. Bring mixture to a boil over medium heat. Cover, place in oven, and bake for 40 minutes or until chicken is cooked through.
- Meanwhile, in medium covered saucepan, bring 2 1/4 cups (550 mL) water to a boil. Add rice and remaining 1/2 tsp (2 mL) salt. Reduce heat to a simmer, cover, and cook 17 minutes or until rice is tender.
- Stir peas into Dutch oven and cook 5 minutes or until heated through. Stir in remaining 1/4 cup (50 mL) cilantro. Serve sauce and chicken over rice.

**SERVES 4****rd.ca**

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to [rd.ca](http://rd.ca) or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!

**AVATAR VENUS****LEO****JULY 23-AUG 23**

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